

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace paragraph [0005] with the following rewritten paragraph:

[0005]

The conventional diaphragm valve 100, as described above, maintains the valve-closed state while the main body 117 is pressed against the valve seat 113 only with the urging force of the spring 123. However, the load of the spring 123 to maintain the valve-closed state has been heavy. As a result of this, the body 110 including the valve seat 113 and the diaphragm valve element 115, which are made of fluorine resin, are pressed by the excessively heavy load. This would cause a deformation in a contact portion between the valve seat 113 and the diaphragm valve element 115, resulting in a shortening of a useful life of the diaphragm valve 100. When the contact portion, or a sealing part is deformed, the valve seat 113 and the diaphragm valve element 115 can no more make contact with each other in an airtight state, which causes a leak of the liquid. Accordingly, the diaphragm valve 100 is demanded to have a configuration that the urging force of the spring 123 is controlled, and the load to bring the diaphragm valve element ~~125~~115 into contact with the valve seat 113 is reduced.

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